

# PARKLAND NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2023

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...AND MUCH MORE!

## BOYS VOLLEYBALL WINS THE STATE CHAMPIONSHIP



Congratulations to the Parkland Boys' Volleyball Team on winning the State Championship in June! They defeated Shaler at Penn State's Rec Hall on Saturday, June 17, 2023. The Trojans swept the Titans 25-15, 25-18, 25-17. The team is pictured above with the PIAA Volleyball trophy.

BACK ROW: Matt Seifert (Assistant Coach), Scott Trumbauer (Head Coach), Kumayl Soonasra, Luke Smith, Josh Nation, Chase Robbins, Owen Rodgers, Brady Hayward, Logan Nassry, Colby Brisendine, Sean Lewis (Assistant Coach), Ryan Trumbauer (Assistant Coach) FRONT ROW: Nick Bauer, Shlok Mehta, Rahul Jasapara, Ahmad Jaffer, Will Stiles, Isaac Uthappan, Fred Patton, Alex Wilby.

MISSING FROM PHOTO: Krishna Patel

## IRONTON ELEMENTARY 100-YEAR ANNIVERSARY CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION IS SEPTEMBER 28, 2023



Ironton Elementary School is pleased to be turning 100 this year. The public is invited to attend the Centennial Celebration on Thursday, September 28, from 5:30 - 7:30 PM. Local food trucks will be on site (with food for purchase) and the Ironton Centennial Committee will present a program that will include a dedication of a 2023 Time Capsule, a performance by the 5th Grade Chorus, and tours of the building. This is the start of many activities that the school community will enjoy over the course of the school year.

The picture to the left hangs on the current school's wall as the first class of grammar school children in 1923. However, much of the history has been lost. We are seeking people to share what they know about the history of the school and original building! If you have photos or information to share, please contact Ironton Elementary School at 610-351-5810.



Keep your eyes on the road.  
Arrive Alive!

Put the phone down, it can wait.  
Don't text and drive.

Robert B. Heintzelman, Supervisor  
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## SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Parkland Community,

Welcome back for the 2023-2024 school year. Our leadership team welcomed back all staff with an Opening Day Convocation Celebration that included Dr. Jarrod Spencer as a keynote speaker who talked about the importance of personal wellness and included performances by the PHS Trojan Marching Band, the PHS Varsity Dance Team, and featured student speakers Tim Saad and Carly Kudryk. We also had surprise food truck treats and Parkland t-shirts for the staff to enjoy.

We thank this year's sponsors for helping us provide items for our staff. They are the Lehigh Valley Educators Credit Union, Service Electric, North Penn Custom Tees, Kades Margolis and the U.S. Army National Guard. We truly value business and community support and thank everyone who helped make Parkland Staff feel important as they start the year.

**FEASIBILITY STUDY** - A feasibility study, led by RLPS Architects, began in January that was designed to explore options to handle student enrollment that is projected to fill Orefield and Springhouse Middle Schools and Parkland High School to capacity by 2028. After months of building tours and evaluations, public meetings, a community survey and feasibility study work group meetings, our Administrative team presented two solution pathway options to the School Board during our regular public meeting on August 15th.

Pathway A consists of renovations and additions at both Parkland High School and Orefield Middle School that will make both buildings larger. Springhouse currently houses approximately 400 more students than Orefield. This project would make both middle schools of similar size and allow some Springhouse students to transfer to Orefield to create more space within Springhouse. An addition to Parkland High School will alleviate crowding, help set up more efficient hallway traffic patterns and allow us to use space within the building in more creative ways. RPLS estimates that Pathway A will cost between \$160 million to \$183 million.

Pathway B entails building a new middle school on a property that is yet to be determined and renovating Orefield Middle School with the intention of it either remaining a middle school or becoming a ninth grade center. Pathway B has been estimated by RLPS to cost between \$216 million to \$250 million.

The School Board could vote on the first step of whichever construction pathway it decides to pursue within the next two months. Pathway A could be fully completed by mid-2028, whereas Pathway B would take until mid-2031.

**SCHOOL SAFETY** - In August, our administrative team worked with South Whitehall Township and our local police departments and emergency response agencies to conduct an active shooter drill at Orefield Middle School. We were able to practice our roles to re-unify students with their parents by following a detailed plan that was constructed last summer. I wish to thank all who were involved in the drill that day and I am proud to say that while we never hope to have to implement the plan, it is essential to rehearse drills that are designed to keep staff and students safe as well as practice communication protocols that are involved during an emergency.

**ACTIVITIES/ATHLETICS** - Our fall sports teams have already started competing. Don't miss a home event! The Parkland Education Foundation has made it possible for all Parkland students to get in FREE to turf and gym events. You can also watch many of our home competitions via livestream at [YouTube.com/ParklandTV](https://www.youtube.com/ParklandTV). Our Performing and Visual Arts programs are also gearing up for another wonderful season. Tickets for the fall play *Peter and the Starcatcher* go on sale on September 11th and tickets for the Children's Show *Disney's Frozen, Jr.* will go on sale on October 2nd at [www.showtix4u.com/](https://www.showtix4u.com/). Please come out and support all of our students and show your Parkland Pride. For a complete list of events, please visit: [parklandsd.org/schools/calendar](https://parklandsd.org/schools/calendar).

Sincerely,

Mark J. Madson, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools  
#ParklandPride



Follow me on Twitter @ParklandSupt

### SUPERINTENDENT'S Parkland Pride Award

**2023 Winners**

Todd Gombos  
Lisa Kadar  
Betsy Lees  
Megan Marra  
Andrea Marzano  
Lisa Mendoza  
Brian Mishler  
Sara Roberts  
Kylie Rodriguez  
Jodi Schwartz  
Kim Stasko  
Ed Vasilik  
Bryna Witkowski

Elementary Data Instructional Specialists - Courtney Lee, Traci Falco, Tricia Kopchak, Carrie Weaknecht, Mike Frew, Joan Krem, Patty Roberts, Angela Little, Christie Nolan

Parkland REACH Team - Michelle Minotti, Lori Seier, Jude Sandt, Brian Barone, Lori Peters, Alison Thompson, Amy Boltz, Tim Chorones, Nicole McGalla, Jessica Fought, Diane Irish, Matt Carlson, Joey Lee, Donna Steckel

A special congratulations is extended to the Parkland Pride Winners who went above and beyond to make Parkland a great place for students to grow this past school year!

## PARKLAND FOOTBALL HOMECOMING WEEK

**OCTOBER 10 - 14**

PARKLAND  
VS  
BECA

**7:00 PM,  
OCTOBER 13**

Join us for a week of activities!



## LISTEN TO THE #PARKLANDPRIDE PODCAST

with

DR. MARK MADSON  
[WWW.PARKLANDSD.ORG/SUPERINTENDENTMADSON](https://www.parklandsd.org/superintendentmadson)





# ***HELPING KIDS WIN AT LIFE***

KidStrong is a child development training center focused on **character, physical & brain development** for kids walking through 11 years old.

We help parents **discover their child's superpowers** and build future-ready kids who are confident making friends, run the playground, and raise their hand high in the classroom.

In other words... **kids who will win at life!**

**SCAN TO LEARN MORE:**



**allentown.KIDSTRONG.com**



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[sluhn.org/sports](http://sluhn.org/sports)



# PARKLAND SENIOR CITIZEN CLASSES

## REGISTER at [WWW.PARKLANDSD.ORG/SENIORS](http://WWW.PARKLANDSD.ORG/SENIORS)



The following classes will be offered this fall to Senior Citizens, ages 55 and older, who reside in the Parkland School District. **The classes are FREE of charge. Please register before the class deadline of September 17, 2023, online at [www.parklandsd.org/seniors](http://www.parklandsd.org/seniors).**

If you don't have Internet access, call us at 610-351-5578 and we will assist you. We ask that people do not register unless they can attend a majority of the sessions. All classes will be reserved via a lottery system. Parkland School District will send out course notifications starting on September 20th. Kindly refrain from contacting the office until after September 20th if you have not yet received confirmation. Thank you.

### WATER AEROBICS

**Parkland High School Pool**

**Wednesdays, October 4- November 8, 5:45-6:45 PM**

**Saturdays, October 7-November 11, 1:00-2:00 PM (No Class October 21)**

This class, co-sponsored by Upper Macungie Township Recreation, features low impact aerobics (conducted in shallow water). The class will focus on the use of all muscles and limbs, breathing and stretching. Water shoes or old, clean sneakers are suggested. Swim noodles are provided at the pool. Swimmers should enter through the lower entrance at the back of the Athletic Wing. Please arrive between 5:15 and 5:30 PM to ensure entrance to the building and time to change in the locker room. Please note that no one will be allowed to enter the building before 5:15 PM. The classes will be held in the Parkland High School Pool located at 2700 North Cedar Crest Blvd., Allentown, PA 18104.

### DOABLE YOGA FOR SENIORS

**Kernsville Elementary School Gym**

**Mondays, October 16-December 18 (NO CLASS November 27) and January**

**8-May 20 (NO CLASS January 15 & February 19)**

**4:30-5:30 PM**

**Schnecksville Elementary School Gym**

**Wednesdays, October 18-December 20 (NO CLASS November 22) and January 10-May 22**

**4:30-5:30 PM**

**Veterans Memorial Elementary School Cafeteria**

**Thursdays, October 5-November 16 (NO CLASS October 19)**

**6-7 PM (co-sponsored by Upper Macungie Township)**

The class will provide a gentle practice to improve the connection between body and mind. Through a combination of seated floor positions (no chairs) and standing flow, you will learn to maintain or increase range of motion as well as improve balance. Please bring your own yoga mat. Please arrive 15 minutes prior to the class starting to get set up as the class will start promptly at 4:30 PM. Maximum of 40 participants per class. Monday classes will be held at Kernsville Elementary School, 5051 Kernsville Road, Orefield, PA 18069. Wednesday classes will be held at Schnecksville Elementary School, 4260 Sand Spring Road, Schnecksville, PA 18078. Thursday class is at Veterans Memorial, 250 Twin Ponds Rd., Breinigsville, PA 18031.

### ST. LUKE'S CHAIR & STRENGTH CLASS

**St. Luke's Fitness & Sports Performance Center-West End**

**Wednesdays & Fridays**

**October 4-November 10 and**

**January 10-February 16, 9:00-9:45 AM**

The chair strength and mobility class is a low-impact program designed to improve strength and mobility for adults of all activity levels. It is movement-based training for persons that want to work on balance, coordination, agility and functional strength. This class is led by a St. Luke's Instructor. The St. Luke's Fitness & Sports Center is located at 501 Cetronia Road, Allentown, PA 18104.

### INTRO TO MISINFORMATION

**Parkland High School Library Classroom**

**Monday, October 30, 3:15-4:15 PM**

This class is led by Parkland High School students and focuses on digital misinformation. Learn about different scams, how to find reputable websites, and how to determine if information online is trustworthy. Participants should bring their own smartphone, or other device, to the class. Parkland High School is located at 2700 North Cedar Crest Blvd., Allentown. Please enter through the main entrance.

### INTRO TO VIDEO STREAMING/GOOGLE MEET

**Parkland High School Library Classroom**

**Thursday, November 9, 3:15-4:15 PM**

This class is led by Parkland High School students and focuses on the basics of video streaming. Students will be teaching how to start and join Zoom meetings, Google Meet meetings, the basics of video streaming, and there will be some discussion of video streaming programs, such as Netflix and Hulu. Participants should bring their own smartphone, or other device, to the class. Parkland High School is located at 2700 North Cedar Crest Blvd., Allentown. Please enter through the main entrance.

### DIGITAL HOARDER NO MORE

**Parkland High School Library Classroom**

**Monday, November 13, 3:15-4:15 PM**

This class is led by Parkland High School students and focuses on the basics of computer file storage, using the Internet and computer skills. Participants should bring their own computer device to the class. Parkland High School is located at 2700 North Cedar Crest Blvd., Allentown. Please enter through the main entrance.

## SENIOR CITIZENS INVITED TO WINTER DINNER AND CONCERT

MAKE A RESERVATION AT  
[WWW.PARKLANDSD.ORG/SENIORS](http://WWW.PARKLANDSD.ORG/SENIORS)

Parkland Senior Citizens are invited to enjoy a FREE dinner at Parkland High School and then adjourn to the auditorium for some great music by talented students. Choose the Parkland High School Chorus Concert on Thursday, December 7th, or the Parkland High School Orchestra Concert on Wednesday, December 13th.

On both nights, doors open at 5 PM in the Parkland High School cafeteria. Dinner will be served at 5:30 PM and the concerts begin at 7 PM. Residents should select only one date so that we can host as many people as possible. Sponsored by:



**NOTE: ALL GUESTS MUST BE 55 OR OLDER AND RESIDE WITHIN THE PARKLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT.**

**PLEASE CALL 610-351-5578 IF YOU DO NOT HAVE COMPUTER ACCESS AND WE WILL ASSIST YOU.**



# NEW HERITAGE SPANISH CLASS A SUCCESS



Heritage Spanish courses were offered for the first time in 2022-23 at Parkland High School and are being expanded to include a level 2 course this school year. These courses are designed for students who have experience speaking Spanish at home or in a community setting. The courses focus on expanding and building upon Spanish language skills to develop individual reading and writing literacy. Students continue to achieve their communicative competence in the areas of listening, speaking, reading and writing. The class comes out of a need in the District and specifically is geared toward a growing Latino and Hispanic population. Dr. Holbrook, the teacher of the classes, who received her educational doctorate from Kutztown University in transformational teaching, explained, "Parkland has a lot of bilingual students who were raised in a Spanish-speaking home. This class allows for those students who are interested in exploring their own culture and other cultures of those who speak Spanish in a unique project-based learning environment."

One of the main goals is for students to expand upon linguistic abilities in meaningful ways. So often when children speak a home language, there is a divide. They communicate in a certain way at home and leave that behind when they come to school. This class serves as a way for students to bring their whole bilingual selves to school to study. Some of the assignments have included autobiographical poems or essays on what it means to be bilingual. In one assignment, students wrote an entry for an international cookbook about a dish that has been important to them and included the history behind the dish. The classes allow them to use their Spanish in ways they would not normally do so in school by drawing upon a student's knowledge, history, family tradition and strength as a bilingual person.

Students are able to enroll in a heritage Spanish class after taking a placement test to ensure that the class meets their needs. Some may be best served by starting out in the traditional world language program and then taking heritage classes. Students who have learned Spanish at home and who are bilingual to some degree are eligible to take the placement exam.

Dr. Holbrook stated, "Seeing students flourish in the class last year was a wonderful experience where we emphasize what students know and what they can do by assigning projects associated with culture, language, and the surrounding community. The students feel validated for the Spanish skills that they have grown up learning and apply their skills to successfully complete projects. They feel a true sense of pride and belonging in the class."



## CLASS OF 2023 RECOGNITION

### WHAT LIES AHEAD FOR THE CLASS OF 2023?

This fall, many Parkland graduates will head off to schools across Pennsylvania and beyond. Enrollment at Penn State University's Main Campus is 73 students, while 27 students will attend a Penn State branch campus. Locally, college enrollment includes Cedar Crest (5), DeSales University (14), Kutztown University (46), Lehigh University (12), Moravian University (22), Muhlenberg College (11), Lehigh Carbon Community College (105) and Northampton Community College (13). Some other popular choices include East Stroudsburg University (8), West Chester University (30) and Temple University (25). Three students are attending Ivy League schools at Dartmouth, Cornell and Princeton. One student was appointed to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. Parkland students from this class are also attending Georgia Tech, Duke, UNC Chapel Hill, and Northwestern.



## PARKLAND'S TOP 3% RECOGNIZED AT COMMENCEMENT

During the Parkland graduation ceremony this year at the PPL Center, students graduating within the top 3% of the class were recognized for their outstanding academic performance. No class rank is published. The Class of 2023 students who were acknowledged in alphabetical order are: Benjamin Bauman (University of California-Irvine), Nikola Cao (George Institute of Technology), Austin Faschnat (Northeastern University), Carla Franco Nikfard (University of South Florida), Reva Gandhi (Dartmouth College), Shravan Ganta (Northeastern University), Anshika Gupta (Princeton University), Vishruth Hanumaihgari (Duke University), Mai Hukuoka (University of Virginia), Sanika Kothari (University of Michigan-Ann Arbor), Owen Lambinus (Lehigh University), Evan Lan (University of Pittsburgh), Cassandra Lee (Northeastern University), Lucas Lee (University of South Florida), Harshini Mallipedhi (Pennsylvania State University), Taha Mirrani (Muhlenberg College), Fudayl Niaz (Cornell University), Noah Oxfeld (Northwestern University), Forum Patel (Lehigh University), Sathvika Rajkumar (Pennsylvania State University-Schreyer Honors College), Mitchell Roth (Lehigh University), Daud Tariq (Thomas Jefferson University), Sreepriya Tekumalla (Thomas Jefferson University), and Elena Wenger (Northwestern University). Congratulations to our top 3% and all 787 of our 2023 graduates!

### CLASS OF 2023 EXIT SURVEY

**86%**  
of the class  
will  
attend college

**65%**  
will  
attend  
a 4-year college

**21%**  
will  
attend a  
2-year college

**9%**  
will  
enter  
the workforce

**3%**  
will  
enter the  
military

**2%**  
will attend  
a business/tech  
school





**THE HARLEM WIZARDS  
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**DEC. 3 | 1 PM | PHS**

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[www.harlemwizards.com](http://www.harlemwizards.com)



**SAVE THE DATE**  
**FRIDAY 10.6.23**  
**BROOKSIDE COUNTRY CLUB**

**GOLF OUTING**

For more information or to register online, visit [www.parklandsd.org/foundation](http://www.parklandsd.org/foundation)

## SAYING FAREWELL.... Congratulations 2023 Retirees

Parkland celebrated 38 retirees with a combined 867 years in public education at the end of the school year. We wish the following people a wonderful new life journey:

### *Parkland High School*

Deborah Andreoli  
Nancy Bogart  
Jane Coronati  
Joan Junge  
Linda LaDue  
Leslie Poremba  
Alice Stinebaugh  
Joan Vanatta  
Donna Wendling

### *Veterans Memorial*

Cheryl Fager  
Donna Reinert

### *Administrative*

Bill Dreisbach  
David Keppel  
Steven Miller  
John Pfeiffer  
Kurt Schreefer  
Nancy Tenetylo

### *Springhouse*

Samuel Eakins  
Christopher Gigger  
Kathleen Kowker  
Susan Matrishin  
Tina Rinker  
David Smith  
Colleen Zeky

### *Bus Drivers*

Bruce Achey  
Barry Buchecker  
Natalie Horn  
Jose Molina

### *Kratzer*

Gina Brokenshire  
Helen Krizan  
Amy Rabenold

### *Ironton*

Ann Case

### *Kernsville*

Beth Sloan

### *Orefield*

Sharon Allen

### *Food Service*

Constance Ancelitz  
Diane Brant  
Virginia Peters  
Debra Waylen

*Thank you*

FOR YOUR SERVICE TO PARKLAND

## CONGRATULATIONS to Newly Appointed/Promoted Administrators

### Newly Appointed

Arthur Oakes - Director of Facilities and Operations

### Promotions

Esmir Becirovic - Supervisor, Cybersecurity & Network Operations

Nicole Mehta McGalla - Director of Communications & Community Engagement

Anthony Naradko, Ed.D. - Director of Safety, Security & School Services

Greg Parlo - Network Administrator

Erik Troutman - Assistant Director of Facilities and Operations

**BEST WISHES IN YOUR NEW POSITIONS!**



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### SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES AND PROGRAMS, SERVICES FOR PROTECTED HANDICAPPED STUDENTS, AND SERVICES FOR GIFTED STUDENTS

In compliance with state and federal law, notice is hereby given by the Parkland School District (PSD) that it conducts ongoing identification activities as a part of its school program for the purpose of identifying students who may be in need of special education supports and services (PA Code Chapter 14), services via section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (PA Code Chapter 15), and/or gifted education services (PA Code Chapter 16).

**Special Education Services:** If your child is identified by the District as possibly in need of such services, you will be notified of applicable procedures. Individualized services and programs are available for children who are determined to need specially designed instruction due to the following conditions: Autism; Deaf-blindness; Deafness; Emotional disturbance; Hearing impairment; Intellectual disability; Multiple disabilities; Orthopedic impairment; Other health impairment; Specific learning disability; Speech or language impairment; Traumatic brain injury; Visual impairment.

**Section 504/Chapter 15 Services:** Parkland School District will provide each protected handicapped student, without discrimination or cost to the student or family, those related aids, services or accommodations which are needed to provide equal opportunity to participate in and obtain the benefits of the school program and co- and non-curricular activities to the maximum extent appropriate to the student's abilities. In order to qualify as a protected handicapped student, the child must be of school age with a physical or mental disability which substantially limits or prohibits participation in or access to an aspect of the school program. These services and protections for "protected handicapped students" are distinct from those applicable to all eligible or exceptional students enrolled (or seeking enrollment) in special education programs.

**Chapter 16:** While gifted is not included as one of the disabilities categories under the IDEA 2004, the Pennsylvania State Board of Education's regulations as set forth in Chapter 16, Special Education for Gifted Students, provide that gifted students are considered to be children with exceptionalities and are in need of specially designed instruction. If you believe that your school age child may be in need of special education services and related programs, Section 504/Chapter 15 services, Chapter 16 services, screening, and evaluation processes are available to you at no cost, upon written request. Whether or not your child is enrolled in the district's public school program.

**Consent:** School entities cannot proceed with an evaluation, or with the initial provision of special education, Section 504/Chapter 15, Chapter 16, and related services, without the written consent of the parents. For additional information related to consent, please refer to the Procedural Safeguards Notice which can be found at the PaTTAN website, [www.Pattan.net](http://www.Pattan.net)

Requests for school-age evaluation and screening should be made in writing to the Director of Student Services, 1210 Springhouse Road, Allentown, PA 18104.

**Preschool Services and Programs:** Children age three through the age of admission to first grade are eligible for Early Intervention services if they have developmental delays and, as a result, need Special Education and related services. A child is considered to have a developmental delay when one of the following exists: (i) The child's score, on a developmental assessment device, on an assessment instrument which yields a score in months, indicates that the child is delayed by 25% of the child's chronological age in one or more developmental areas; or (ii) The child is delayed in one or more of the developmental areas, as documented by test performance of 1.5 standard deviations below the mean on standardized tests. Developmental areas include cognitive, communicative, physical, social/emotional and self-help.

Parents of young children with concerns about their child's seeing, hearing, learning, talking, moving about, manipulating objects, understanding, showing emotions, getting along with others, playing with toys, taking care of himself/herself, should contact the Carbon Lehigh Intermediate Unit - Project Connect at (610) 769-4111. Project Connect can provide information to parents about evaluations, programs, therapy, parent supports, and referral to community agencies at no cost to the parent.

**Potential Signs of Developmental Delays:** For a list of general "warning signs" of possible delay, please refer to "Related Files" on the following webpage:  
[www.parklandsd.org/departments/student-services/annual-public-notice](http://www.parklandsd.org/departments/student-services/annual-public-notice)



# JOIN US FOR A PHS STAGE SHOW THIS FALL



## PHS Fall Play: Peter and the Starcatcher OCTOBER 6 - 8, 2023

Peter and the Starcatcher upends the century-old story of how a miserable orphan boy becomes the legendary Peter Pan. From marauding pirates and jungle tyrants to unwilling comrades and unlikely heroes, Peter and the Starcatcher playfully explores the depths of greed and despair . . . and the bonds of friendship, duty and love. A young orphan and his mates are shipped off from Victorian England to a distant island ruled by the evil King Zarboff. They know nothing of the mysterious trunk in the captain's cabin, which contains a precious, otherworldly cargo. At sea, the boys are discovered by a precocious young girl named Molly, a Starcatcher-in-training who realizes that the trunk's precious cargo is starstuff, a celestial substance so powerful that it must never fall into the wrong hands. When the ship is taken over by pirates, the journey quickly becomes a thrilling adventure.

Tickets on sale September 11th at noon at [www.showtix4u.com](http://www.showtix4u.com)  
Admission prices are \$10 for students and seniors (65+); \$12 for adults.



## PHS Family Show: Disney's Frozen JR. November 17 - 19, 2023

The enchanting modern classic from Disney is ready for the Parkland stage. Frozen JR. is based on the 2018 Broadway musical, and brings Elsa, Anna and the magical land of Arendelle to life, onstage.

The show features all the memorable songs from the animated film, with music and lyrics by Kristen Anderson-Lopez and Robert Lopez, plus five new songs written for the Broadway production. A story of true love and acceptance between sisters, Frozen JR. expands upon the emotional relationship and journey between Princess Anna and Elsa. When faced with danger, the two discover their hidden potential and the powerful bond of sisterhood. With a cast of beloved characters and loaded with magic, adventure and plenty of humor, Frozen JR. is sure to thaw even the coldest heart.

Tickets on sale October 2nd at noon at [www.showtix4u.com](http://www.showtix4u.com)  
Admission prices are \$10 for students and seniors (65+); \$12 for adults.

# ARTWORKS ADULT ART CLASS OFFERINGS



Artworks, a program run by the Parkland Performing and Visual Arts Department, will offer Adult Art Classes as follows for a fee:

Introduction To Oil Painting  
Explorations In A New Ceramic Medium: Porcelain Paper Clay

Visit the webpage <https://www.parklandsd.org/departments/arts/artworks> for more information and to register for a class. The registration deadline is Friday, September 15, 2023.



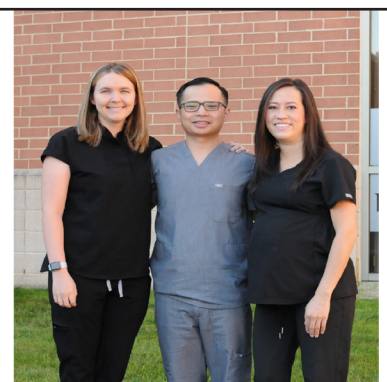
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# WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL!



**PARKLAND STUDENTS ADMITTED FREE TO REGULAR SEASON GAMES WITH STUDENT ID**

for  
Soccer  
Field Hockey  
Basketball  
Wrestling  
Lacrosse

COURTESY OF THE  
PARKLAND EDUCATION  
FOUNDATION





**Welcome Back 2023-24**

**Breakfast is FREE for all students this year!**

**Lunch is free for students who qualify for free or reduced meals this year.**

Join us Friday, September 29th for a Parkland Education Foundation

## TAILGATE EVENT

Parkland Football Field | Visit [www.parklandsd.org/foundation](http://www.parklandsd.org/foundation) for tickets and details.

## MURAL INSTALLED IN ADMINISTRATION CENTER

This mural has been installed at the Administration Center thanks to a Parkland Education Foundation grant. The mural idea was conceived by SMS Art teacher Chris Eggleston, who worked with our Communications office, to reach out to students, staff and community members to obtain quotes about what Parkland means to them. On the perimeter are Parkland tiles that have been decorated by SMS art students. And, at the core is hand-drawn artwork that depicts our 12 schools surrounding symbols for Academics, Arts and Athletics. This drawing was made by Class of 2023 graduate Emma Ludwig and rising senior Riley McMenamy under the direction of PHS art teacher Monica Danner.

Superintendent Dr. Mark Madson conceived of the mural idea and stated, "The mural is a wonderful dedication to the entire community. We love that visitors are able to sit and read the many ways that make Parkland special. We are thankful that so many students, staff and community members were able to contribute to this wonderful work of art."



**PARKLAND IS...**

welcoming. united. inclusive. a place to embark on a wonderful journey. comprised of teamwork. full of amazing teachers. full of opportunities for a future filled with success. diverse. a place to make friends. a family. a great place to learn. a great district for academics as well as arts and athletics. positive. filled with field day fun. our home. sports, sports, sports...let's go. stronger together. magical. really fun, cool, and exciting. a place where you can feel safe. full of fun. on the move. unique and different. a place to grow up and make memories. great tech. generous and kind. where students embark on fantastic field trips. talented. making beautiful music on stage. where students become innovators of our generation. accepting. a place for fun. legendary. where friendships bloom and last special in every way. a place for fun. happiness. a vision for the future. full of cool science experiments. a place for teaching fun, awesome and sweet. the best. people will help you. filled with fun. greatest school districts. putting our a place where you feel appreciated. a school all about helping others. real. laughing ideas. where all of us work together to be a prosperity. filled with classes that make alone. where friends are supportive and on. a home run. colorful. part of my family. a place to where my teachers are kind. great fun and where we make memories together. where I am safe. where I am with my friends. where I am proud to be strong. a place with family friendly schools. where there are educational opportunities for everyone. athletic. providing a good education for all students. always trying to spread kindness and show love to everyone. a place where I feel at home. where teachers, students, and staff all work together.





Lisa Ervin  
Executive Director, Parkland Education Foundation  
[ervinl@parklandsd.org](mailto:ervinl@parklandsd.org) | 610-351-5572  
[www.parklandsd.org/foundation](http://www.parklandsd.org/foundation)

## FOUNDATION PROMOTES ERVIN TO FULL-TIME ROLE

Since 2013, the Parkland Education Foundation has been fortunate to have a part-time Executive Director. This past year, the Foundation reached a new milestone and longtime goal of being able to have its Executive Director transfer to a full-time position, completely funded by the Parkland Education Foundation.

The District congratulates Lisa Ervin on this promotion and thanks her for her amazing work. Stay tuned for more great things to come!



## FOUNDATION AWARDS 107 CELEBRATE INNOVATION GRANTS TOTALING \$207,000 FOR THE 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR PROJECTS

THIS IS THE MOST AMOUNT AWARDED TO DATE FOR A SINGLE YEAR OF GRANTS

The Parkland Education Foundation raises money all year to be able to fund as many grants as possible for Parkland staff who apply for them. It was thrilled to be able to fund \$207,000 worth of grants for the current school year. Their goal is to give opportunities that enhance a traditional public school education. Some examples of this year's grants include:

- A coding robot at Schnecksville Elementary will teach children how to code and understand concepts like computer sequencing, events, loops, algorithms, operations, and variables through self-directed play and guided challenges.
- Indoor hydroponic gardens at both Springhouse and Orefield Middle Schools, that can each harvest up to 3,400 plants annually via a vertical technology system, will help students learn about STEM, nutrition, and how to be sustainable global citizens through hands-on learning.
- A sideline medical tent for the Athletic Department will provide privacy for athletes who may get injured or need treatment during games.
- A Layout Lab, complete with several iMac stations, will be made available to the PHS Par Key yearbook and Trumpet newspaper students so that editors can create layouts for the two publications. Editors will collaborate with staff writers/page designers to simulate an industry-standard workshop.
- PHS students will be able to sign up for teacher-run nighttime observations via new vision adapter systems. Star parties will allow students to get a more in-depth understanding of stars and constellations by observing them through the new systems.

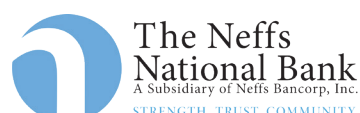
Funding for grants is made possible by generous donors and fundraising events. In May, the Distinguished Alumni Celebration raised \$84,000 in support of the Foundation's mission. The Parkland Education Foundation has given more than \$1,745,702 to the Parkland School District since 2011 for innovation.

## DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS GIVES BACK TO PARKLAND STUDENTS

Bryan Knouse is the CEO of Project OWL. He is also a Parkland graduate and a 2022 Parkland Education Foundation Distinguished Alumni Wall of Honor Award recipient. He chose to give back to our Parkland community by visiting the 4th grade classroom of his former teacher at Parkway Manor, Mrs. Jen Schmoyer, and presented his amazing work to the students there. His company designs devices called "ducks" that seamlessly connect to each other generating an encrypted, wireless network with a single click of a button. It uses radio signals to communicate with each other in a mesh network. This technology has been able to provide connectivity over long distances. It has been used all over the world to help in disaster situations. During the hurricane in Puerto Rico, Bryan's company launched an entire Duck Network to provide necessary network communication to the severely damaged country. They have been able to help prevent disasters on oil rigs and connect people in war-torn regions. Project Owl is changing the way disaster areas are able to communicate. The Parkland Education Foundation loves creating connections with alumni who want to inspire students. A special thanks to Bryan who helped to show our students that the sky is not the limit, but just the beginning, to making dreams a reality.



## THE FOUNDATION THANKS ITS CORPORATE PARTNERS IN EDUCATION





## 2023-24 IMPORTANT DATES and INFORMATION

Check out our Weekly 5 THINGS TO KNOW FOR THE WEEK AHEAD [www.parklandsd.org/schools/weekly-update](http://www.parklandsd.org/schools/weekly-update)

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAYS – SCHOOLS CLOSED**  
September 25, October 9, January 15 and March 8

**DISTRICT-WIDE EARLY DISMISSAL DAYS**  
(11 AM OMS, SMS and PHS and 11:45 AM Elementary Schools)

November 20, 21, 22

January 19

April 26

May 17

### PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Elementary Parent-Teacher Conferences – November 20-22

Middle School Parent-Teacher Conferences – November 20-22

High School Parent-Teacher Conferences - November 22

### LENGTH OF SCHOOL DAYS

Elementary School (K-5) 8:50 AM - 3:30 PM

Middle School (Grades 6-8) 7:45 AM - 2:38 PM

High School (Grades 9-12) 7:40 AM - 2:44 PM

### CAFETERIA PRICES

Elementary Lunch \$2.70

Secondary Lunch \$2.95

Adult Lunch \$4.15

Adult Breakfast: \$2.50

Milk: \$.50

Reduced Price Lunch: No charge

### MENUS

[www.parklandsd.org/Menus](http://www.parklandsd.org/Menus)

### BIRTHDAY CLASS TREAT

#### ORDER FORM

[www.parklandsd.org/Birthday](http://www.parklandsd.org/Birthday)

### KEYSTONE TESTS - Winter

Literature - January 4-5

Biology – January 9-10

Algebra I – January 11-12

### KEYSTONE TESTS - Spring

Literature – May 13-14

Algebra I – May 15-16

Biology – May 20-21

### PENNSYLVANIA SYSTEM OF SCHOOL ASSESSMENT (PSSA TESTS)

Grades 3-8, English/Language Arts

April 22-26

Grades 3-8, Mathematics/Science

April 29-May 3



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# PARKLAND NEWSLETTER

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### PARKLAND NEWSLETTER VOLUME 55 NUMBER 1

Published 4x annually in September, January, April and June.

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Editor, Nicole McGalla

#### NONDISCRIMINATION IN PROGRAMS AND EMPLOYMENT POLICY

In accordance with TITLE VI, TITLE IX, Section 504 and the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Parkland School District does not discriminate either in the educational or vocational programs and activities which it operates or in the employment of personnel, on the basis of sex, handicap, disability, race, color, national origin, age, or religion. If you are physically or mentally disabled, visually or hearing impaired, you may qualify for special services/instruction/equipment modifications so you can successfully complete the education program or participate in activities. All inquiries concerning this policy/questions regarding specific programs, services, and facilities for the disabled should be directed to the District Equal Rights Officer, Assistant Superintendent, Parkland School District, 1210 Springhouse Road, Allentown, PA at (610) 351-5505.

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